

# The Daily Astorian

Established 1873.

Published Daily Except Monday by THE J. S. DELLINGER CO.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By mail, per year .....\$7.00  
By carrier, per month ..... .60

### WEEKLY ASTORIAN.

By mail, per year, in advance.....\$1.50

Entered as second-class matter July 30, 1906, at the postoffice at Astoria, Oregon, under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Orders for the delivering of The Morning Astorian to either residence or place of business may be made by postal card or through telephone. Any irregularity in delivery should be immediately reported to the office of publication.

TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

### THE WEATHER

Oregon and Washington—Occasional rain; colder in the east portions.

### WEATHER VICTIMS.

For months the people of the United States have been storm and wind swept; the pressure and darkness of an abnormal winter have been constant and severe; the ordinary physical and mental conditions of the people have been warped and blended to the color-scheme, temper, and general consistency, of the gray winter days; as a consequence, we are not as healthy, happy and peaceful, nor as busy and prosperous, as we should be. All organic bodies, and movements, are, notoriously, at loggerheads and accomplishing their ends by the hardest (witness the Congress and the Legislatures); business is dulled and impeded by delays and losses that sour and disappoint the manufacturer and merchant and shipper, and, incidentally, react upon the patron everywhere; crime and insanity and accident are on the increase as a direct result of the dubious and disastrous weather; even our inclination for, and indulgence in, amusements and social pleasure, are circumscribed and half-hearted; and so on, all down the line, the long and dismal season lends its weight of cheerlessness to counteract the normal, everywhere.

There is nothing local about it. The same report comes from every center in the land; from New England, the middle East, and West; the Southern States, and all along the Pacific reaches. Even Astoria feels it.

If there is any doubt about the matter, we have but to note the vitalizing effect of a vagrant ray of sunshine that escapes from the muck of rain and storm cloud, to beam for a fascinating moment upon the welcoming faces and hearts of the people; the sudden warm up-lift; the responsive thrill and distinct energizing of mind and muscle; the access of cheer and purpose and hope and every passing proof of the blessed effect of light and warmth and clarity, upon the human organism. No wonder the country is praying and hoping and dreaming and longing for the break that shall herald the dawn of Spring with all its promises of light and warmth and inspiration and inducement and opportunity! Atmospheric storms beget brain-storms, of a surety!

# SHOES

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### OF COURSE IT STAYS HERE!

The mighty effort of the Puget Sound commercial bodies to have the headquarters and fleet of the Thirteenth Lighthouse district removed from the Columbia River to Bellingham has fallen flat, and the men and business and ships remain where they are; the offices and officers at Portland, the vessels and buoy station at Astoria.

There are excellent reasons for this. Chief among them is the fact that the steamers must be held where they can get instant dispatch when called to the seas for duty. It would never do to berth them where from 150 to 200 miles intervene between them and the coast lines. Here they are within the very hour of deep blue water, with every inshore facility that can be imagined, ready at hand within actual sight of the sea. It is business, and good business, that keeps them here.

As for the offices, the headquarters should, necessarily, be within easy touch of the department depots and docks, and Portland is as good a place, perhaps, as any within reasonable touch of Columbia; but Astoria would be the better point and port for even that element of the business. Anyway it is easy to understand why the district department was not sent over to the Sound!

### THE NORMALS.

For years there has been growing adverse sentiment in Oregon against State support of the Normal schools; and it has found its logical expression in the denial of the Legislature to continue the appropriations in that behalf. The five schools, with the single exception of Monmouth, have been squarely turned down, and it is likely that Monmouth will figure in the general collapse, in time.

There is much to be said for and against the issue of State aid for the Normals; but the State-wide disinclination to foster them is so marked that argument becomes practically valueless, at this time. In this utilitarian age when commercialism reaches out its profit-grabbing hand and absorbs every element of human action and industry, it is not to be wondered at that the educational interests should be made a basis of business, and that the old-fashioned and semi-sacred notion that the State must help to maintain all kinds of schools, should be relegated to the limbo of things out-grown and unnecessary.

The idea seems to be very popular all over the land that it is enough for the State to richly and generously maintain the public schools and give the children the first and best of its care and support, leaving the culture and equipment of the teachers to such sources, in a business sense, as they shall devise for themselves or the perspicacity of others may provide. And the reversion of this phase of our educational work to the realm of "business" may yet prove to be the best and cheapest for all concerned, provided always the State sets up and enforces, the best of standards for the qualification of its teachers, a matter it is not likely to overlook.

### WING SHOTS.

President-Elect Taft has completed the roster of his cabinet. And Astoria is once more shunted out of sight. Sometimes we wonder why we are on the map at all! Discouragement seems to be our eternal portion!

Oregon and Washington seem to be united, for once, in the matter of the Columbia fisheries. At least, it will serve as an example in the final adjustments that must be made. That they can get together is proven at last!

We notice that these \$50,000 necklaces always drop from necks that can afford the loss. It is one of the

carrying incidents the ordinary working girl is free from. What of shock there is in the disappearance of such treasures, falls to the vanity, rather than to the purse, of the loser.

Lighthouse tenders do not have to waste a day in getting to sea from this port; it is a mere matter of the hour, and a short one at that. Nothing like being next to the sea when it comes to ships and steamers and craft and cargoes that require dispatch!

War-paint and weapons are the order of the day in the national Congress. May be "our George" would do well to tote his veto-axe along with him just for emergencies.

The liability of a minor to fine in the sum of \$50, for plating himself off on a saloonkeeper as a major adult, should be invoked in this man's town often enough to give the youngsters a taste of the medicine where-with we dose the saloonman so freely. It would be a simple matter of justice.

There are far more people leaving Astoria for the cemeteries than for other cities and towns. The live man is willing to stay here for the most part and in another year no man can be charmed away. Astoria's prospects are as bright and certain as any city's on the coast.

### NO INSURANCE NECESSARY.

At the recent annual convention of the National Association of Cement Users was expressed the conviction, amounting almost to indignation, that prevailing insurance rates are unjust to the owners of reinforced concrete structures. It is so well understood that reinforced concrete surpasses all other materials in this respect that it was natural to find impatience manifested on the part of those directly concerned in the matter says Cement Age. There is every likelihood, however, that it will never be necessary for builders of high-class reinforced concrete structures to importune insurance companies to make proper concessions. The officers of the leading fire insurance companies are too intelligent and far-seeing to cut off their revenues by perpetuating the unjust discrimination that prevails at present. It is altogether likely that they have not given the subject the serious consideration it deserves. When they do, they will be quick to see that it is better to accept a low rate on a thoroughly fire proof structure than to have the owner decline to take out insurance. That is exactly what will happen if excessive rates prevail. The individual who owns a structure entirely of reinforced concrete, with such supplementary safeguards as fireproof doors, wireglass windows and protected openings, may insure contents, but he will not worry about the structure itself. Doubtless the majority would prefer to insure against minimum damage, such as might involve the restoration of concrete surfaces, for example, but not at excessive rates. The subject is one that concerns the insurance companies more than the owners of reinforced concrete buildings, as there is increasing confidence on the part of the latter that such structures are entirely safe.

### NASAL CATARRH.

T. F. Laurin Sells the Great Remedy That Cured Mrs. Karberg

Here is a very simple yet wholly sincere statement of a Michigan woman, who was cured by using Hyomei—the no cure no pay remedy for catarrh, asthma, hay fever, croup, coughs and colds.

"A bad case of catarrh was cured for me by the use of Hyomei. The trouble affected my head, nose and eyes, and was very annoying and disagreeable, and the cure, from the use of Hyomei, was very gratifying. Hyomei has from me a strong recommendation and endorsement."—Mrs. E. Karberg, 213 Kingsley St., Ann Arbor, Mich., Nov. 16, 1908.

Thousands of just such letters are in existence, and thousands more would be but for the desire to avoid publicity.

If you have catarrh, bestir yourself, and drive it out of your system. Kill the germs. You can do that easily if you use Hyomei (pronounced High-o-me).

It is a dry, antiseptic and very pleasant air that, when inhaled, quickly relieves all forms of catarrhal inflammation, stops snuffles, hawking and blowing. The price for a complete outfit, including inhaler, is only \$1.00 at T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.

## NEW YORK FINANCES AS TOLD BY CLEWS

### TARIFF REVISION ONE OF IMPEDING ELEMENTS IN THE BUSINESS QUIETUDE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—Money is easy everywhere. Not only in New York, but in Paris, Frankfurt and Berlin the tendency of interest rates is still downward. This, of course, is mainly due to the depression prevailing in commerce and industry in all parts of the world. As a result capital is accumulating and diligently seeking every form of safe and profitable employment. The effect of this situation upon the security markets is marked. In the first place, it causes a good demand for high grade investments from conservative investors and institutions, who have more regard for preservation of principal than either dividends or speculative profits. At the same time another class of buyers, viz., the general public, continues to abstain from the market, partly because they recognize that the prices of average stocks are much too high in view of existing conditions. The insiders and big market leaders have successfully resisted any important decline thus far, owing to the abundance of cheap money. There are reasons for believing, however, that those whose policy it was to support the market and resist natural tendencies, have accumulated all, if not more than, the stocks they desire, and that in the absence of buyers their position is anything but a satisfactory one, notwithstanding their unquestioned financial strength.

For some months past all the resources and skill of the great leaders have been concentrated upon the purpose of resisting natural tendencies, considering the great shrinkage in railroad traffic, and the unquestioned dullness in business, prices ought to have undergone a considerable reaction. Such has been the course in all previous panics, and it is difficult to appreciate why the results should be any different now. There is no doubt the recovery following the rebound after the panic was too violent, having been unduly stimulated by the inflationary effect of cheap money and the powerful co-operation of great financiers. The resistance to natural reaction was not confined to the security market; it extended equally into all of the great industries under the control of big combinations. It is to be doubted, therefore, if liquidation has been as complete as it should have been, in order to bring business to a really sound basis. Buyers, not only of stocks, but of commodities, lack confidence. There is a universal feeling that as prices are too high, a recession must follow; and all buyers as a matter of self-interest are preserving a hand-to-mouth policy and obstinately refusing every anticipation of future requirements.

It is this lack of confidence among buyers that hinders each to do with the present inertia of business. Nearly all lines of business to-day are exceedingly quiet, the only signs of healthy activity being where, as, for instance, in cotton goods, a thorough readjustment has already taken place. Iron and steel prices are now being reduced to still lower levels. But needless to say, though this has attracted many orders, buyers are still unsettled because action has been deferred, and the market has not yet been sufficiently tested by compensation between buyers and sellers. Moreover, the dullness in trade is being further aggravated by tariff agitation. While tariff talk does not lessen the amount of food consumed, clothes worn or shelter required, still the uncertainty has a restraining effect upon new ventures and strengthens the determination of buyers to preserve a hand-to-mouth policy. No doubt when the tariff question is settled business will instantly take a vigorous start in consequence of the accumulation of deferred orders; so that the total volume of business over an extended period will have suffered little or nothing. During the interval, however, much hesitation will prevail and must be endured until the tariff question is settled. Unfortunately, the prospects are for a prolonged and bitter agitation, present indications being for a more or less excited session of Congress, lasting well into mid-summer. Already an unusual length of time has been given to hearings on the tariff by the Ways and Means Committee, and with very unsatisfactory results. President-elect Taft is expected to call a special session of Congress beginning the middle of March, and from thence on it is to be feared that the business

community will be harassed more than now by the uncertainty pending revision. The tariff has now become a political issue of supreme importance; too important and complex to be settled by any tariff commission, and capable of adjustment only by debate and struggle on the floor of Congress.

The outlook for the stock market continues complex. On the one hand, we have universal ease in money and prospects of its continuance until the autumn in spite of Government withdrawals of deposits, gold exports and possible increased demands incidental to the first of April. The good inquiry for bonds and high class stocks is certainly encouraging. London has been a larger investor of American securities than for some time past, and the general strength of the foreign markets will, of course, exert a beneficial influence here. On the other hand, the prospects of continued trade in the United States the outlook for irritating tariff discussion and the fact that neither securities nor commodities have yet undergone an adequate decline all tend to unsettle confidence in the future of the stock market. The new administration will shortly be sworn in, and a reassuring and encouraging message is confidently expected from President-elect Taft. The effect of this, however, can only be temporary, unless there should be a material change in other vital conditions. The natural tendency of prices is to seek a more normal level, and the situation would be unquestionably benefited by a gradual readjustment. It is simply a question of how long artificial resistance, powerfully aided by cheap money, can hold in check natural forces. The market is quite likely to witness sharp rallies on any favorable developments of importance, but the prevailing tendency must be towards a lower level until the tariff is settled and business begins to show signs of genuine improvement.

### WASN'T HUDSON, THEY SAY.

Critics Deny He Was The First Discoverer Of River.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—After careful investigation the Treasury Department has come to the conclusion that Hendrick Hudson was not the discoverer of the Hudson river after all. This fact was made known at a meeting last night of the New York Society of Founders and Patriots of America, a committee which has under consideration the placing of a tablet on the walls of the new custom house in commemoration of Hudson's discovery. Before the work can be done, the approval of the treasury department is necessary and a member of the committee last night submitted a report, including a letter sent to Secretary Cortelyou by W. L. Kunhardt which said that it was not strictly accurate to say that Hudson discovered the Hudson river and that the river had been visited by at least two earlier navigators, Verrazano and Gomez. Commenting on this bit of information Assistant Secretary Winthrop wrote:

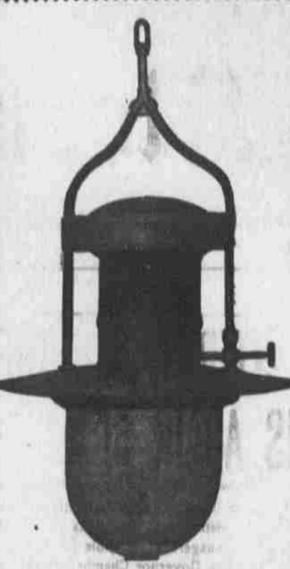
"From this letter you will note that the accuracy of the legend on the tablet is questioned and it is suggested that before further action is taken in the matter that you have the statement verified and advise this office of the change, if any, that you consider advisable.

The committee will go ahead, however, on the theory that Hudson was to all practical purposes the discoverer of the river and with the belief that if such technicalities were allowed to stand in the way it would be about the same as denying that Columbus discovered America, as this continent had been visited by Norsemen many centuries before. Discussion of Hudson's claim to fame is particularly interesting at this time in view of the approaching Hudson-Fulton centennial, for which elaborate preparations have been made.

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